

*Ptenus parvus* Smith was described from western Texas and Arizona. Additional records include: TEXAS: Brewster Co., 43 mi. s. Alpine, 7-VI-1972; Presidio Co., 3 mi. n. Presidio, 1-IX-1966.

*Ptenus texanus* (Norton) is known from Texas and Mexico. Additional records include: MEXICO: Coahuila, Puerta de la Gorriona, el. 4900 ft., Sierra del Carmen, 13-VII-1938.

*Ptenus vanus* Smith was described from New Mexico, Arizona, and the bordering Sierra del Carmen mountains of Mexico (Coahuila). The known distribution of this species is extended south in Mexico to central Vera Cruz. Additional records include: MEXICO: Vera Cruz, 4 mi. w. Conejos, 29-VI-1971.

*Ptenus vargus* Smith was described from 2 females taken at "port of entry" from Mexico at Brownsville, Texas. The first specific records from Mexico are Nuevo Leon, 7.5 mi. s. Monterrey and 9 mi. s. Monterrey, and San Luis Potosi, 13.4 mi. w. El Naranjo. Collection dates range from mid-March to mid-August. The proximity of these localities to the Mexican-United States border suggests that *P. vargus* probably occurs also in southern Texas, as suggested by Smith (ibid.).

I wish to thank D. R. Smith (ARS, USDA, Washington, D. C.) for his suggestions and for his determinations of many of the specimens reported in this paper.—HAROLD N. GREENBAUM<sup>2</sup>, Department of Entomology, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas 77843.

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**A Mountain-top Swarm of the Hemipteran *Nysius raphanus* in New Mexico, with Notes on Other Insects.**—Capulin Mountain National Monument, situated in extreme northeastern New Mexico, has as its central attraction an extinct volcanic cinder cone. This is thinly forested with pinyon pine and rises a thousand feet (summit is 8,215') above the surrounding treeless plain. When Ray G. Martinez, Jr., Park Superintendent, kindly gave me a permit for collecting insects there (May 9, 1974), he said that visitors had complained for the past two weeks of vast swarms of small "flies" on the summit trail around the crater rim. Near midday, at the summit parking lot, hikers descending from the trail did indeed seem harassed. A short climb up the trail brought me into an area where the air was filled with flying, small, hard-bodied insects that pelted one's face like grains in a sandstorm. This situation extended for about a half-mile of the trail. The insects proved to be a species of lygaeid, identified as *Nysius raphanus* Howard by Jon L. Herring of the USDA Systematic Laboratory at Beltsville. Both females and males were present in about equal numbers. This species has long been regarded as a synonym of *N. ericae* (Schilling), the False chinch bug.

As the day progressed, the wind became brisk, and the *Nysius* sought shelter in the small pinyons. A blow with a net handle on a tree produced a thick gray cloud of insects that quickly drifted down wind; each pass of the net through such a cloud captured a few hundred of the insects. *Nysius* was not seen near the base of the mountain.

Near the highest point of the mountain, just down wind from the tip of a tall

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pine, was an aggregation of 10 to 20 oestrid flies, which easily kept its position in the wind. A specimen sent to R. J. Gagné (also of the Systematics Laboratory) proved to be *Cephenomyia pratti* Hunter.

At mid-morning of the same day the long-faced black bee *Andrena porterae* Cockerell was common on flowering bushes of *Ribes* at the base of the peak. This is, as far as I know, the easternmost record for this Rocky Mountain species.

Probably Mt. Capulin's chief claim to entomological fame is the satyrid butterfly *Oeneis alberta capulinensis* Brown 1970: 137 (J. New York Entomol. Soc.), which at the time of its description had status as an isolated eastern population of *alberta*. However, Brown predicted it would eventually be found in the highlands to the north and west. In order to reduce possible collecting pressure on the small Mt. Capulin colony, it would be well to point out here that I observed *alberta* on May 10 in numbers on Johnson's Mesa, about 10 mi. NNW of Mt. Capulin, at an altitude of 7,600'.—U. N. LANHAM, *University of Colorado Museum, Boulder*.

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#### **Additional Notes on Chagas' Trypanosome in California and Arizona.—**

Wood (1975, Exptl. Parasitol. In Press) indicated 25 locations in California for recovery of *Triatoma protracta protracta* (Uhler) naturally infected with *Trypanosoma cruzi* Chagas. Further unreported California localities for recovery of Chagas' trypanosome in *T. p. protracta* include the following: from *Neotoma* houses in Garden Valley, El Dorado Co., 26 & 28 November 1963: 24 (4 ♂, 7 ♀, 8-5th and 5-4th instar nymphs) with 3 ♂ and 5 ♀ positive for *T. cruzi*, A. L. Gladwill; at black light in Lytle Creek, San Bernardino Co., 12 September 1964: 4 (2 ♂, 2 ♀), 1 ♀ positive, J. A. Robertson; 1 positive ♂ from a home in Yreka, Siskiyou Co., 21 July 1967, forwarded from the State Department of Agriculture by R. Hawthorne; 1 positive ♀ from the living room couch in a home in the Hollywood Hills, Hollywood, Los Angeles Co., 20 August 1967, R. DeRover, Jr.; and 8 (2 ♂, 3 ♀ and 3-5th instar nymphs), 2 ♀ and 3-5th positive 10 August and 2 September 1974 from *Neotoma* houses in Wildwood Park, Thousand Oaks, Ventura Co., S. F. Wood.

From 1964 through 1970, 28 *T. p. protracta* were reported to me from homes in Beverly Hills (Benedict Canyon), Los Angeles County. Microscopic examination of the feces of 3 ♂ and 11 ♀ revealed 1 ♀ positive for *T. cruzi* from inside a home 7 September 1968 and another ♀ positive from an outside screen 8 July 1969. Thus, there are numerous reservoir mammal carriers of Chagas' zoonosis in the southern end of the Santa Monica Mountains.

During the summer of 1965, A. L. Gladwill, caretaker at the Griffith Park Boys' Camp in Los Angeles, California, collected 13 *T. p. protracta* (6 ♂, 7 ♀) from the vicinity of his living quarters (Wood & Wood, 1967, *Pacific Insects* 9: 544, Fig. 5) from 26 August to 31 October and placed them, dead or alive, in his home refrigerator (1–2°C). These conenose bugs were transferred 6 June 1966 to the author's refrigerator and removed 6 July 1966 for examination of the rectal contents for trypanosomes. One ♀ with feeble leg movements when isolated by Gladwill 4 September 1965 revealed 3 trypo- and 16 epi-mastigotes of *T. cruzi* when examined 305 days after capture! One ♂ collected alive 30 August 1965